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Minneapolis, MN 55440-1022

In re Application of ZUPANICK, JOSEPH A.
Appl.No.: 10/003,917
Filed: November 1, 2001
For: METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR SURFACE
PRODUCTION OF GAS FROM A
SUBTERRANEAN ZONE

**DECISION ON PETITION
UNDER 37 CFR 1.59**

This is a decision on the petition under 37 CFR 1.59(b), filed November 24, 2009, to expunge information from the above identified application.

The petition is GRANTED.

Petitioner requests that the materials provided by Cliffs Natural Resources, filed November 24, 2009, be expunged from the record.

A petition under 37 CFR 1.59(b) must contain:

- (A) a clear identification of the information to be expunged without disclosure of the details thereof;
- (B) a clear statement that the information to be expunged is trade secret material, proprietary material, and/or subject to a protective order, and that the information has not been otherwise made public;
- (C) a commitment on the part of the petitioner to retain such information for the period of any patent with regard to which such information is submitted;
- (D) a statement that the petition to expunge is being submitted by, or on behalf of, the party in interest who originally submitted the information;
- (E) the fee as set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(g) for a petition under 37 CFR 1.59(b)

The information in question has been determined by the undersigned to not be material to the examination of the instant application.

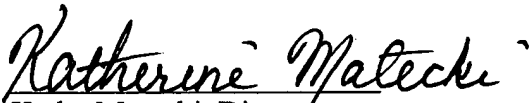
As the above conditions have been met, the requested material has been expunged. However, the material will not be returned to the applicants. The obligation to return documents was removed from 37 CFR 1.59 (June 30, 2003 Fed Register, Vol. 68, No.

Art Unit: 3672

125, 38613). The documents have been closed from the IFW record so as not to be viewable by non-PTO personnel. This decision only applies to this application, and any other applications containing the proprietary information will need to be separately decided.

Applicant is required to retain the expunged material(s) for the life of any patent which issues on the above-identified application.

Any questions regarding this decision should be directed to David Bagnell at (571) 272-6999.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Katherine Matecki".

Kathy Matecki, Director
Patent Technology Center 3600
(571) 272-5250

KM/db 06/25/10
/TL/